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FAX RECEIVED

FEB 04 2003

Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Technology Center
Art Unit 3626
Washington, DC. 20231

GROUP 3600

Attention: Examiner Alexander Kalinowski

RE: 09/583,336 William Reeves

Dear Mr. Kalinowski,

1/30/03

OFFICIAL

Per your recent voice messages and our telephone conversations I have gone back in our records and found a copy of the post office receipt for the mailing of my response to your office action.

As you can see the response was mailed on 11/20/02 to the above address. The package was not sent registered and unfortunately to not have a return receipt card. I hope that this will satisfy the Special programs examiners who are looking into this issue on this application. I can only conclude that the original package I sent you was somehow lost in your paper mill. I have a similar situation with the petitions office and I have come to the conclusion that the only safe way to deal with sending materials to the patent office is to mail everything register with a request for a return receipt card.

In addition, please find a copy of the Petition for Extension of time which I printed off the PTO website. In reviewing this form and the PTO instructions it is very misleading about the time extensions for responses to office actions. An intelligent and reasonable person could easily conclude that one could purchase up to five months additional time for an office action (in addition to the three free months). I even reviewed the instructions for filing the extensions and there is no language at all to indicate that the maximum time limit on an office action response is 6 months. This is very misleading on the part of the PTO.

Again, congress enacted the patent laws in order to FACILITATE commerce and inventions, not hinder commerce and inventions, and your patent filing literature makes it clear that the laws have been set up so that any individual inventor can file and process a patent on their own. The patent laws and procedures should not be so confusing and cumbersome so as to require that individuals need to hire patent attorneys to process their patents.

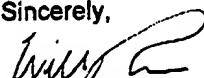
Its very frustrating that the PTO can take three years (or more- depending on their whims) to sit on my applications before taking any office actions and in contrast, I am on a very strict schedule to respond or I lose my entire application. I have also reviewed the filing dates and issue dates of Many recent patents and again it appears that the PTO is highly biased in favor of patent attorneys

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and again pro se inventors in terms of giving patent attorneys priority over all pro se inventors and having attorney prosecuted applications processed quickly and to the detriment of pro se inventors.

I appreciate any help you can give me in terms of ensuring that this application is not abandoned and is processed accordingly. Please bear in mind that I hold 9 US patents and have three other applications being properly processes at this time through the PTO.

Sincerely,


William Reeves, GM, inventor

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